

Constraints and its classification:

Constraints :- Restrictions of geometric or kinematical nature imposed on the positions and velocities of the system of particles are called constraints.

A system with such constraints is called constrained system.

A system without any constraint is called free system.

Analytically, a constraint is expressed by the relation

$$f(t, \mathbf{r}_N, \dot{\mathbf{r}}_N) = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(N = 1, 2, 3, ..., N)

where t is the time, \mathbf{r}_N and $\dot{\mathbf{r}}_N$ are the position vector and velocity of the Nth particle respectively.

If in equation (1), $\dot{\mathbf{r}}_N$ is absent then the constraint $f(t, \mathbf{r}_N) = 0$ is called finite or geometric constraint.

If in the finite constraint t does not involve explicitly i.e. $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = 0$, then the finite constraint is called stationary.

If in the finite constraint t involves explicitly i.e. $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \neq 0$, then the finite constraint is called non-stationary.

Generally the constraint $f(t, \mathbf{r}_N, \dot{\mathbf{r}}_N) = 0$ is called differential or kinematical constraint.

It may or may not be integrable.

Thus we have four fold classification of constraints -

(i) geometric - Stationary and non-
Stationary

(ii) Differential - Integrable and
non-integrable.

Potential type of forces - If there

exists a force function or a potential function of position vector \vec{r}_j such that the force may be derived by differentiating force function with respect to \vec{r}_j , then the force is called potential type of force.

If there does not exist any force function or potential function of position vectors \vec{r}_j then the force is called non potential type of force.

Classification of dynamical system :

There are eight fold classifications of dynamical system (system of particle in motion).

(i) Holonomic and non-holonomic

(ii) Scleronomous and Rheonomic

(iii) Conservative and non-Conservative

(iv) Simple and non-Simple.

Holonomic dynamical System :

Any free dynamical system or a dynamical system with integrable differential constraints is called holonomic system.

Non-holonomic System : A system with non-integrable differential constraint is called non-holonomic system.

Scleronomic System : A system with finite stationary constraint is called scleronomic system.

Rheonomic System : A system with finite non-stationary constraint is called rheonomic system.

Conservative System : A system with potential type of forces is called conservative system.

Non-Conservative System : A system with non-potential type of forces is called non-conservative system.

Simple System : A system with holonomic or scleronomic or conservative or holonomic and scleronomic or holonomic and conservative or scleronomic and conservative or holonomic and scleronomic and conservative is called simple system.

Non-Simple System : A system with non-holonomic or rheonomic or non-conservative or non-holonomic and rheonomic or non-holonomic and non-conservative or rheonomic and non-conservative or non-holonomic and rheonomic and

~~is called dissipation~~ is called Non-holonomic system. As it is very difficult to deal with such system.

Illustration and example:

(i) A particle is ~~is~~ constrained to move over a surface whose equation may be written as $f(\vec{r}) = 0$. Then the equation of constraint may be written as $f(x, y, z) = 0$.

This constraint is finite and stationary.

If the surface moves, then the time t enters in the equation of the surface explicitly. Then the equation takes the form $f(t, x, y, z) = 0$. This is a finite and non-stationary constraint. In this case the dynamical system is holonomic and non-holonomic.

(ii) Two particles are connected by a rod of constant length l . Then the constraint equation may be written as $(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 + (z_1 - z_2)^2 - l^2 = 0$. This is a finite, stationary constraint.

The dynamical system is holonomic.

(3)

(ii) Two particles on a plane are connected by a rod of constant length l and they are constrained to move in such a way that the velocity of the middle point of the rod is in the fixed direction inclined at an angle α with the x -axis. Then the equations of constraints are given by

$$z_1 = z_2 = 0$$

$$(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 = l^2$$

$$\frac{\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{\dot{y}_1 + \dot{y}_2}{\sin \alpha}$$

Here the

constraint is integrable differential and the dynamical system is holonomic.

(iv) Two particles in a plane are

~~connected by a rod of constant length~~ l and they are constrained to move in such a way that the velocity of the middle point of the rod is along the rod. Then the equation of the constraint may be written as

$$z_1 = z_2 = 0$$

$$(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 = l^2$$

$$\frac{\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2}{x_1 - x_2} = \frac{\dot{y}_1 + \dot{y}_2}{y_1 - y_2}$$

Here the constraint

are non-integrable differential and the system is non-holonomic.

②

$$v \cos \alpha = \dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2$$

$$v \sin \alpha = \dot{y}_1 + \dot{y}_2$$

$$\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2}{\dot{y}_1 + \dot{y}_2}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{l}$$

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{l}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{y_2 - y_1}$$

$$\frac{\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{\dot{y}_1 + \dot{y}_2}{y_2 - y_1}$$

